

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 43-48 are currently pending. Claims 43-48 are added; and Claims 25-42 are canceled without prejudice by the present amendment. No new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, the specification was objected to as containing informalities; Claims 25, 27, 36, 38-40, and 42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Izumi et al. (U.S. Patent 4,725,977, hereinafter “the ‘977 patent”) in view of Sagesaka et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,619,361, hereinafter “the ‘361 patent”); Claims 26 and 41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘977 patent in view of the ‘361 patent and Mankoff (U.S. Patent No. 6,385,591 B1, hereinafter “the ‘591 patent”); and Claims 28-35 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘977 patent in view of the ‘361 patent, the ‘591 patent, and Hollenberg (U.S. Patent No. 6,091,956, hereinafter “the ‘956 patent”).

Regarding the objection to the specification, Applicants submit that the phrase “promote outgoing” was amended in the previous amendment. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 25-42 are rendered moot by the present cancellation of those claims.

New Claim 43 is directed to a service system, including, *inter alia*, a portable terminal; a processing machine body which performs a service in accordance with service information from the portable terminal; and an external station capable of communicating

with the portable terminal by short distance wireless. The portable terminal includes a second receiving section configured to receive, from the external station, service information and guidance information indicating another external station which is different from the external station and is capable of acquiring another service information which is different from the service information when the portable terminal reaches an area of the short distance wireless.

Applicants respectfully submit that new Claim 43 patentably defines over the previously applied references.

Turning to the applied references, the '977 patent is directed to a cartridge programming system for loading selected computer programs into a reprogrammable plug-in cartridge memory. The outstanding Office Action concedes that the '977 patent does not teach or suggest a section configured to indicate an external station at which a portable terminal device acquires device service information. Applicants respectfully submit that the '977 patent also does not teach or suggest a second receiving section configured to receive, from an external station, service information and guidance information indicating another external station which is different from the external station and is capable of acquiring another service information which is different from the service information, as recited in new Claim 43.

The '591 patent is directed to product and service merchandising through distribution of electronic coupons and gift certificates. The outstanding Office Action concedes that the '591 patent does not teach or suggest a section configured to indicate an external station at which a portable terminal device acquires device service information. Applicants

respectfully submit that the '591 patent also does not teach or suggest a second receiving section configured to receive, from an external station, service information and guidance information indicating another external station which is different from the external station and is capable of acquiring another service information which is different from the service information, as recited in new Claim 43.

The '956 patent is directed to distributed information systems that exchange information about places, events, and details with mobile computers and their users. The outstanding Office Action concedes that the '956 patent does not teach or suggest a section configured to indicate an external station at which a portable terminal device acquires device service information. Applicants respectfully submit that the '956 patent also does not teach or suggest a second receiving section configured to receive, from an external station, service information and guidance information indicating another external station which is different from the external station and is capable of acquiring another service information which is different from the service information, as recited in new Claim 43.

The '361 patent is directed to transmitting/processing radio information between a control terminal of a game machine body and a plurality of operation terminals of the game machine. As disclosed in the '361 patent, a control microcomputer outputs a transmission voltage signal to a drive unit that outputs a transmission current signal to a light emitting unit. The '361 light emitting unit transmits an optical base station transmission signal to a plurality of portable stations. The '361 patent further discloses that a light receiving unit receives a signal transmitted from a portable station and outputs a transmission current signal to a

waveform shaping unit. The '361 waveform shaping unit outputs a transmission voltage signal to an input port of the control microcomputer.

The outstanding Office Action asserts that the '361 patent discloses a section configured to indicate an external station at which a portable terminal device acquires device service information. However, the '361 patent merely discloses the transmission and reception of optical base station transmission signals and optical portable station transmission signals. Applicants submit that the '361 patent does not teach or suggest a second receiving section configured to receive, from an external station, service information and guidance information *indicating another external station which is different from the external station* and is capable of acquiring another service information which is different from the service information, as recited in amended Claim 43.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the '977 patent, the '591 patent, the '956 patent, and the '361 patent, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the second receiving section recited in new Claim 43. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that new Claim 43 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably distinguishes over any proper combination of the '977 patent, the '591 patent, the '956 patent, and the '361 patent.

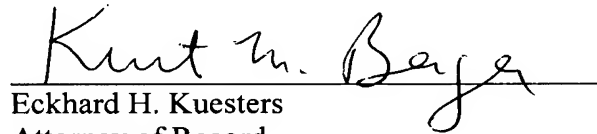
Furthermore, because any proper combination of the '977 patent, the '591 patent, the '956 patent, and the '361 patent fails to teach or suggest the second receiving section recited in Claim 43, Applicants respectfully submit that any proper combination of the '977 patent, the '591 patent, the '956 patent, and the '361 patent fails to teach or suggest the second receiving section recited in Claim 45, the second receiving section recited in Claim 47, and the second receiving section recited in Claim 48. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that

Claims 45, 47, and 48 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably distinguish over any proper combination of the '977 patent, the '591 patent, the '956 patent, and the '361 patent.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kurt M. Berger", is written over a horizontal line.

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